



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/059,872	01/29/2002	Aleksander Szlam	INVE13US1	7700

28452 7590 09/25/2006

BOURQUE & ASSOCIATES
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ATTORNEYS, P.A.
835 HANOVER STREET
SUITE 301
MANCHESTER, NH 03104

EXAMINER

SHEW, JOHN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2616

DATE MAILED: 09/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/059,872

Applicant(s)

SZLAM, ALEKSANDER

Examiner

John L. Shew

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 August 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 and 23-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 and 23-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 February 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 20060724.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Staples (Patent No. 5889845).

Claim 25, Staples teaches an apparatus for allowing a user at a first location (laptop computer 102 of FIG. 1, FIG. 2, the remote user of the laptop computer 102 ref. by col. 4 lines 7-9, lines 54-67), to remotely control operation of selected devices at a second location (Virtual Presence Server 106 of FIG. 1, FIG. 2, the Virtual Presence Server 106 to a corporate office ref. by col. 4 lines 7-9, lines 54-67), by using a first electronic data network (PSTN network of FIG. 1), comprising a first set of devices connected to a telephone network at the second location (Fig. 3, the Corporate BPX 112 Virtual Presence Server 106 and Telephones 122 ref. by col. 7 lines 52-67, col. 8 lines 1-7), a telephone controller connected to the telephone network and to the first set of devices for controlling the operation of the telephone network (Corporate PBX 112 connected to the PSTN which controls the corporate telephone network including access to the

Telephones 122 of FIG. 3), a second set of devices connected to a second electronic data network at the second location (Desktop PC's 134 connected to the Ethernet corporate LAN 114 of FIG. 3), a data controller connected to the second electronic data network (the Virtual Presence Server 106 which interfaces with the Ethernet Corporate LAN 114 of FIG. 3), and to the second set of devices for controlling the operation of the data network (Virtual Presence Server 106 which interfaces with the Ethernet Corporate LAN 114 for access to the Desktop PC's 134 of FIG. 3), an access controller for receiving an incoming communication from the user over the first electronic data network (FIG. 6, FIG. 10, the Virtual Presence Server Communication Device 340 for controlling incoming access from the user telephony communications device 104 ref. by col. 14 lines 30-43), for receiving a user selection of a device over the first electronic data network (virtual telephone device seen and used by the remote user by clicking the telephone icon ref. by col. 6 lines 57-67, col. 7 lines 1-9, col. 24 lines 43-51), for connecting the incoming communication to the telephone controller, and terminating the connection of the incoming communication to the data controller (the terminate session by the "Be There" icon ref. by col. 26 lines 52-63), if the selected device is in the first set of devices (FIG. 3, Perform Function At Corporate Office Step 570 of FIG. 15, the Perform Function At Corporate Office Step 570 including calling a corporate party extension represented by the Telephone 122 connected to the PBX 112 ref. by col. 22 lines 53-67, col. 23 lines 1-12), and for connecting the incoming communication to the data controller if the selected device is in the second set of devices to control the operation of the second device (FIG. 3, Perform Function At Corporate Office Step 570

of FIG. 15, the Perform Function At Corporate Office Step 570 including accessing the corporate email server connected to the corporate LAN 114 via the Virtual Presence Server 106 ref. by col. 22 lines 53-67, col. 23 lines 1-12).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 6-7, 9-11, 13, 15, 16, 18-21, 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Staples et al. (Patent No. 5889845) in view of Beaton et al. (Patent No. US 6608637 B1).

Claim 1, Staples teaches a method for allowing a user at a first location (the laptop computer 102 of FIG. 1, FIG. 2, the remote user of the laptop computer 102 ref. by col. 4 lines 7-9, lines 54-67), to control operation of devices at a second location (Virtual Presence Server 106 and PBX 112 of FIG. 1, FIG. 2, the control of Virtual Presence Server 106 to a corporate office ref. by col. 4 lines 7-9, lines 54-67), via an electronic data network (PSTN network of FIG. 1), comprising the steps of accepting an incoming communication from the user over the electronic data network (Virtual Presence Server Receive Call Step 522 of FIG. 13, the Virtual Presence Server Receive Call Step 522 from the remote user 102 ref. by col. 20 lines 18-29), receiving the user selection of a device over the electronic data network (the virtual telephone device seen and used by

Art Unit: 2616

the remote user ref. by col. 6 lines 57-67, col. 7 lines 1-9), receiving a user selection of a function of the device over the electronic data network (the virtual telephone including the substantially same button configurations of the office telephone accessible to the remote user ref. by col. 6 lines 57-65), sending the user selection of the function to the device (Perform Function At Corporate Office Step 570 of FIG. 15, the user selection of picking up the virtual telephone which through the Virtual Presence Server device Perform Function At Corporate Office Step 570 ref. by col. 22 lines 53-67, col. 23 lines 1-12), receiving a response from the device to the device function (FIG. 15, the Virtual Presence Server providing the dial tone of the PBX to the remote user ref. by col. 24 lines 43-60), sending the response to the user over the electronic data network (FIG. 15, Virtual Presence Server providing the dial tone of the PBX to the remote user ref. by col. 24 lines 43-60), wherein the selected device is a first device (virtual telephone device seen and used by the remote user ref. by col. 6 lines 57-67, col. 7 lines 1-9). Staples does not teach and further comprising monitoring the incoming communication for a subsequent user selection of a second device; and if the second device is in a different set of devices than the device, then also connecting the incoming communication to the controller for the different set of devices to control operation of the second device.

Beaton teaches monitoring the incoming communication for a subsequent user selection of a second device (Fig. 1, the user of the mobile telephone 1100 selecting another communication icon for another service class including e-mail and fax ref. by col. 1 lines 64-67, col. 2 lines 7-22, Fig. 4, col. 5 lines 1-8), and if the second device is in

a different set of devices than the device (Fig. 1, the FAX 1500 being a different device from the telephone device ref. by col. 2 lines 65-67, col. 3 lines 1-14), then also connecting the incoming communication to the controller for the different set of devices to control operation of the second device (Fig. 1, the GSM Switching Fabric 1800 which controls the access to the FAX device 1500 ref. by col. 2 lines 65-67, col. 3 lines 1-14). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the multitasking graphical user interface of Beaton to the system of providing a remote user with a virtual office of Staples for the purpose of providing a multitasking graphical user interface that gives a user quick access to all major communication tools so as to accomplish communication tasks in a minimal number of steps as suggested by Beaton (col. 2 lines 3-7).

Claim 6, Staples teaches a method for allowing a user having a portable communications device at a first location (laptop computer 102 of FIG. 1, FIG. 2, the remote user of the laptop computer 102 ref. by col. 4 lines 7-9, lines 54-67), to conduct business by using telephone facilities available at a second location (Virtual Presence Server 106 of FIG. 1, FIG. 2, the connection to a Virtual Presence Server 106 through the PSTN to provide corporate office telephony communications devices ref. by col. 4 lines 7-9, lines 54-67, col. 5 lines 13-36), comprising the steps of accepting an incoming communication from a calling party (Generate Outgoing Call to Remote User Step 586 of FIG. 16, the Third Party Accesses Remote User followed by Generate Outgoing Call to Remote User Step 586 ref. by col. 23 lines 13-44), the incoming communication being to a telephone number for the user at the second location (PBX forwarding all

telephone calls made to the extension of the user at the corporate office to the Virtual Presence Server for routing to the remote user at his virtual office ref. by col. 20 lines 60-67, col. 21 lines 1-8), determining an identity for the calling party (the use of Caller ID information at the remote user computer system to distinguish calls from the virtual presence server and third party directly ref. by col. 23 lines 45-59), determining the first location (Transfer Message To Remote User Step 590 of FIG. 16, the Transfer Message To Remote User Step 590 which must determine the location of the remote user in order to transfer the message ref. by col. 23 lines 13-44), if the calling party is a predetermined person then placing a call to the portable communications device and sending the identity for the calling party to the portable communications device (the use of Caller ID to distinguish between predetermined virtual presence server calls from corporate extensions and third party direct calls ref. by col. 23 lines 45-67), accepting an instruction to control operation a device of the telephone facilities from the portable communications device as to the treatment of the incoming communications (FIG. 19, the User Telephony Communications Device Performs A Call Forwarding Operation To Call Forward Telephone Calls Made To The Second Number Step 722 ref. by col. 28 lines 9-35), handling the incoming communication in accordance with the instruction (FIG. 19, the Telephone Call To The Second Telephone Number Of The User Telephony Communications Device Is Automatically Routed To The Virtual Presence Server At The Corporate Office Step 726 ref. by col. 28 lines 36-67, col. 29 lines 1-4). Staples does not teach monitoring for additional instructions to control operation of another devices of the telephone facilities from the portable communications device.

Beaton teaches monitoring for additional instructions to control operation of another devices of the telephone facilities from the portable communications device (Fig. 1, the user of the mobile telephone 1100 selecting another communication icon for another service class including e-mail and fax ref. by col. 1 lines 64-67, col. 2 lines 7-22, Fig. 4, col. 5 lines 1-8),.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the multitasking graphical user interface of Beaton to the system of providing a remote user with a virtual office of Staples for the purpose of providing a multitasking graphical user interface that gives a user quick access to all major communication tools so as to accomplish communication tasks in a minimal number of steps as suggested by Beaton (col. 2 lines 3-7).

Claim 7, Staples teaches wherein the step of placing a call to the portable communications device comprises establishing a connection to the portable communications device using an electronic data network (FIG. 1, FIG. 2, the remote user laptop 102 connected to the corporate office through the PSTN and corporate LAN 114 ref. by col. 5 lines 1-27, lines 55-59).

Claim 9, Staples teaches a method for allowing a user having a portable communications device at a first location (the laptop computer 102 of FIG. 1, FIG. 2, the remote user of the laptop computer 102 ref. by col. 4 lines 7-9, lines 54-67), to conduct business by using telephone facilities available at a second location (FIG. 1, FIG. 2, the connection to a Virtual Presence Server 106 through the PSTN to provide corporate office telephony communications devices ref. by col. 4 lines 7-9, lines 54-67, col. 5 lines

13-36), comprising the steps of accepting an incoming communication on a communications link from the second location (Generate Outgoing Call to Remote User Step 586 of FIG. 16, the Virtual Presence Server of the corporate office wherein the Third Party Accesses Remote User followed by Generate Outgoing Call to Remote User Step 586 ref. by col. 23 lines 13-44), accepting an identity for a calling party who has placed an incoming communication to the user (the use of Caller ID information at the remote user computer system to distinguish calls from the virtual presence server and third party directly ref. by col. 23 lines 45-59), the incoming communication being to a telephone number for the user at the second location (FIG. 16, the Virtual Presence Server of the corporate office receiving a call wherein a co-worker dials the corporate extension of the user ref. by col. 23 lines 13-44), presenting the identity for the calling party to the user (the use of Caller ID information at the remote user computer system to distinguish calls from the virtual presence server and third party directly ref. by col. 23 lines 45-59), accepting an instruction to control operation a device of the telephone facilities from the user as to the treatment of the incoming communication (FIG. 19, the User Telephony Communications Device Performs A Call Forwarding Operation To Call Forward Telephone Calls Made To The Second Number Step 722 ref. by col. 28 lines 9-35), sending the instruction to the second location (FIG. 19, user directive to the virtual presence server wherein the User Telephony Communications Device Performs A Call Forwarding Operation To Call Forward Telephone Calls Made To The Second Number Step 722 ref. by col. 28 lines 9-35), handling the incoming communication in accordance with the instruction (FIG. 19, the Telephone Call To The Second Telephone

Number Of The User Telephony Communications Device Is Automatically Routed To The Virtual Presence Server At The Corporate Office Step 726 ref. by col. 28 lines 36-67, col. 29 lines 1-4).

Staples does not teach monitoring for additional instructions to control operation of another devices over the telephone facilities from the user wherein the first location is a remote location of the user and the second location is a main location of the user.

Beaton teaches monitoring for additional instructions to control operation of another devices over the telephone facilities from the user wherein the first location is a remote location of the user and the second location is a main location of the user (Fig. 1, the user of the mobile telephone 1100 selecting another communication icon for another service class including e-mail and fax ref. by col. 1 lines 64-67, col. 2 lines 7-22, Fig. 4, col. 5 lines 1-8),.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the multitasking graphical user interface of Beaton to the system of providing a remote user with a virtual office of Staples for the purpose of providing a multitasking graphical user interface that gives a user quick access to all major communication tools so as to accomplish communication tasks in a minimal number of steps as suggested by Beaton (col. 2 lines 3-7).

Claim 10, Staples teaches wherein the step of handling the incoming communication comprises if the instruction is to connect the calling party with the user then establishing a voice channel between the use and the calling party using the communication link (FIG. 2, Establish Connection Step 588 of FIG. 16, the Establish Connection Step 588

Art Unit: 2616

wherein voice call forwarding is established between the Third Party and the Remote User through the corporate LAN and PSTN ref. by col. 23 lines 26-44).

Claim 11, Staples teaches wherein the step of presenting the identity for the calling party comprises sending the identity for the calling party to the user over an electronic data network (FIG. 2, the use of Caller ID information at the remote user computer system to distinguish calls from the virtual presence server and third party directly wherein the information is passed through the corporate LAN 114 and PSTN ref. by col. 23 lines 45-59).

Claim 13, Staples teaches wherein the step of accepting an instruction from the user comprises accepting the instruction from the user over an electronic data network (FIG. 2, FIG. 19, the User Telephony Communications Device Performs A Call Forwarding Operation To Call Forward Telephone Calls Made To The Second Number Step 722 wherein communications is transmitted over a corporate LAN 114 and PSTN ref. by col. 28 lines 9-35).

Claim 15, arguments analogous to those stated in the rejection of claim 6 are applicable.

Claim 16, arguments analogous to those stated in the rejection of claim 7 are applicable.

Claim 18, arguments analogous to those stated in the rejection of claim 6 are applicable. Further, Staples teaches sending the instruction to the second location (FIG. 19, the Telephone Call To The Second Telephone Number Of The User Telephony

Communications Device Is Automatically Routed To The Virtual Presence Server At The Corporate Office Step 726 ref. by col. 28 lines 36-67, col. 29 lines 1-4).

Claim 19, Staples teaches wherein the step of handling the incoming communication comprises if the instruction is to connect the calling party with the user then establishing a voice channel between the use and the calling party using the communication link (FIG. 2, FIG. 16, the Establish Connection Step 588 wherein voice call forwarding is established between the Third Party and the Remote User through the corporate LAN and PSTN ref. by col. 23 lines 26-44).

Claim 20, Staples teaches a method for allowing a user at a first location (laptop computer 102 of FIG. 1, FIG. 2, the remote user of the laptop computer 102 ref. by col. 4 lines 7-9, lines 54-67) 02, to control operation of devices at a second location (Virtual Presence Server 106 of FIG. 1, FIG. 2, the Virtual Presence Server 106 to a corporate office ref. by col. 4 lines 7-9, lines 54-67), by using a first electronic data network (PSTN network of FIG. 1), the devices comprising a first set of devices connected to a telephone network at the second location (Corporate BPX 112 Virtual Presence Server 106 and Telephone 122 of Fig. 3, the Corporate BPX 112 Virtual Presence Server 106 and Telephone 122 ref. by col. 7 lines 52-67, col. 8 lines 1-7), and a second set of devices connected to a second electronic data network at the second location (Desktop PC's 134 connected to the Ethernet corporate LAN 114 of FIG. 3), the second location comprising a telephone controller for controlling the operation of the telephone network (Corporate PBX 112 which controls the corporate telephone network of Fig. 3), and a data controller for controlling the operation of the second electronic data network

(Virtual Presence Server 106 which interfaces with the Ethernet Corporate LAN 114 of FIG. 3), the method comprising the steps of accepting an incoming communication from the user over the first electronic data network (FIG. 3, Receive Call Step 522 of FIG. 13, the Virtual Presence Server Receive Call Step 522 from the remote user 102 via the PSTN ref. by col. 20 lines 18-29), receiving a user selection of a device (the virtual telephone device seen and used by the remote user by clicking the telephone icon ref. by col. 6 lines 57-67, col. 7 lines 1-9, col. 24 lines 43-51), if the device is in the first set of devices then connecting the incoming communication to the telephone controller (FIG. 3, Perform Function At Corporate Office Step 570 of FIG. 15, the Perform Function At Corporate Office Step 570 including calling a corporate party extension represented by the Telephone 122 connected to the PBX 112 ref. by col. 22 lines 53-67, col. 23 lines 1-12), if the device is in the second set of devices then connecting the incoming communication to the data controller (FIG. 3, Perform Function At Corporate Office Step 570 of FIG. 15, the Perform Function At Corporate Office Step 570 including accessing the corporate email server connected to the corporate LAN 114 via the Virtual Presence Server 106 ref. by col. 22 lines 53-67, col. 23 lines 1-12), wherein the selected device is a first device (the virtual telephone device seen and used by the remote user ref. by col. 6 lines 57-67, col. 7 lines 1-9).

Staples does not teach and further comprising monitoring the incoming communication for a subsequent user selection of a second device; and if the second device is in a different set of devices than the first device, then also connecting the incoming

communication to the controller for the different set of devices to control operation of the second device.

Beaton teaches monitoring the incoming communication for a subsequent user selection of a second device (Fig. 1, col. 1 lines 64-67, col. 2 lines 7-22, Fig. 4, col. 5 lines 1-8) referenced by the user of the mobile telephone 1100 selecting another communication icon for another service class including e-mail and fax, and if the second device is in a different set of devices than the first device (Fig. 1, col. 2 lines 65-67, col. 3 lines 1-14) referenced by the FAX 1500 being a different device from the telephone device, then also connecting the incoming communication to the controller for the different set of devices to control operation of the second device (Fig. 1, col. 2 lines 65-67, col. 3 lines 1-14) referenced by the GSM Switching Fabric 1800 which controls the access to the FAX device 1500.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the multitasking graphical user interface of Beaton to the system of providing a remote user with a virtual office of Staples for the purpose of providing a multitasking graphical user interface that gives a user quick access to all major communication tools so as to accomplish communication tasks in a minimal number of steps as suggested by Beaton (col. 2 lines 3-7).

Claim 21, Staples teaches receiving a user selection of a function of the device (the virtual telephone including the substantially same button configurations of the office telephone accessible to the remote user ref. by col. 6 lines 57-65), sending the user selection of the function to the connected controller (Perform Function At Corporate

Office Step 570 of FIG. 15, the user selection of picking up the virtual telephone which through the Virtual Presence Server device Perform Function At Corporate Office Step 570 ref. by col. 22 lines 53-67, col. 23 lines 1-12), receiving a response from the connected controller to the device function (FIG. 15, the Virtual Presence Server providing the dial tone of the PBX to the remote user ref. by col. 24 lines 43-60), and sending the response to the user over the first electronic data network (FIG. 15, the Virtual Presence Server providing the dial tone of the PBX to the remote user via the PSTN ref. by col. 24 lines 43-60).

Claim 23, Staples teaches wherein the selected device is a first device associated with a first controller (Telephone 122 of Fig. 3, the Telephone 122 connected through the control of the Corporate BPX 112 ref. by col. 7 lines 52-67, col. 8 lines 1-7). Staples does not teach further comprising the steps of monitoring the incoming communication for a subsequent user selection of a second device; and if the second device is in a different set of devices than the first device, then terminating the connection of the incoming communication to the first controller and connecting the incoming communication to the controller for the different set of devices.

Beaton teaches further comprising the steps of monitoring the incoming communication for a subsequent user selection of a second device (Fig. 1, the user of the mobile telephone 1100 selecting a communication icon for another service class including telephone icons 7100 ref. by col. 1 lines 64-67, col. 2 lines 7-22, Fig. 4, col. 5 lines 1-8, Fig. 7, col. 6 lines 19-41), and if the second device is in a different set of devices than the first device (Fig. 1, Fig. 7, the telephone 1300 being a different model than the

mobile telephone 1100 ref. by col. 6 lines 19-41), then terminating the connection of the incoming communication to the first controller and connecting the incoming communication to the controller for the different set of devices (Fig. 7, the termination of the call with the called party and then answering the second call ref. by col. 6 lines 19-41).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the multitasking graphical user interface of Beaton to the system of providing a remote user with a virtual office of Staples for the purpose of providing a multitasking graphical user interface that gives a user quick access to all major communication tools so as to accomplish communication tasks in a minimal number of steps as suggested by Beaton (col. 2 lines 3-7).

Claims 2-5, 8, 12, 14, 17, 24, 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Staples and Beaton as applied to claims 1, 6, 9, 15, 20, 25 above, and further in view of Wanderer et al. (Patent No. 5491796).

Claim 2, Staples teaches the step of accepting the incoming communication.

Staples and Beaton do not teach accepting the incoming communication from the user over the Internet.

Wanderer teaches accepting the incoming communication from the user over the Internet (FIG. 2, FIG. 4, the poll module 52 using the access layer 60 through Internet Protocol to retrieve information wherein such modules are incorporated to a virtual presence server for remote network management ref. by col. 36 lines 49-57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the apparatus for remote management of network resources of Wanderer to the system of providing a multitasking virtual office of Staples and Beaton for the purpose of providing a consistent approach for managing the network hardware resources as suggested by Wanderer (Abstract lines 1-5).

Claim 3, Staples teaches the step of receiving a user selection of a device.

Staples and Beaton do not teach receiving the user selection of a device over the Internet.

Wanderer teaches receiving a user selection of a device over the Internet (FIG. 2, FIG. 4, the poll module 52 using the access layer 60 through Internet Protocol to retrieve information wherein such modules are incorporated to a virtual presence server for remote network management ref. by col. 36 lines 49-57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the apparatus for remote management of network resources of Wanderer to the system of providing a multitasking virtual office of Staples and Beaton for the purpose of providing a consistent approach for managing the network hardware resources as suggested by Wanderer (Abstract lines 1-5).

Claim 4, Staples teaches the step of receiving a user selection of a function.

Staples and Beaton do not teach receiving the user selection of a function over the Internet.

Wanderer teaches receiving a user selection of a function over the Internet (FIG. 2, FIG. 4, the poll module 52 using the access layer 60 through Internet Protocol to retrieve

information wherein such modules are incorporated to a virtual presence server for remote network management ref. by col. 36 lines 49-57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the apparatus for remote management of network resources of Wanderer to the system of providing a multitasking virtual office of Staples and Beaton for the purpose of providing a consistent approach for managing the network hardware resources as suggested by Wanderer (Abstract lines 1-5).

Claim 5, Staples teaches the step of sending the response to the user.

Staples and Beaton do not teach sending the response to the user comprises sending the response to the user over the Internet.

Wanderer teaches sending the response to the user over the Internet (FIG. 2, FIG. 4, the poll module 52 using the access layer 60 through Internet Protocol to send the packet to the agent wherein such modules are incorporated to a virtual presence server for remote network management ref. by col. 36 lines 49-57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the apparatus for remote management of network resources of Wanderer to the system of providing a multitasking virtual office of Staples and Beaton for the purpose of providing a consistent approach for managing the network hardware resources as suggested by Wanderer (Abstract lines 1-5).

Claim 8, Staples teaches the step of placing a call to the portable communications device.

Staples and Beaton do not teach establishing a connection to the portable communications device using the Internet.

Wanderer teaches establishing a connection to the portable communications device using the Internet (FIG. 2, FIG. 4, the poll module 52 using the access layer 60 through Internet Protocol to retrieve information wherein such modules are incorporated to a virtual presence server for remote network management ref. by col. 36 lines 49-57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the apparatus for remote management of network resources of Wanderer to the system of providing a multitasking virtual office of Staples and Beaton for the purpose of providing a consistent approach for managing the network hardware resources as suggested by Wanderer (Abstract lines 1-5).

Claim 12, Staples teaches the step of presenting the identity for the calling party.

Staples does not teach sending the identity for the calling party to the user over the Internet.

Wanderer teaches sending the identity for the calling party to the user over the Internet (FIG. 2, FIG. 4, the poll module 52 using the access layer 60 through Internet Protocol to retrieve information wherein such modules are incorporated to a virtual presence server for remote network management ref. by col. 36 lines 49-57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the apparatus for remote management of network resources of Wanderer to the system of providing a multitasking virtual office of Staples and Beaton

for the purpose of providing a consistent approach for managing the network hardware resources as suggested by Wanderer (Abstract lines 1-5).

Claim 14, Staples teaches the step of accepting an instruction from the user.

Staples does not teach accepting the instruction from the user over the Internet.

Wanderer teaches accepting the instruction from the user over the Internet (FIG. 2, FIG. 4, the poll module 52 using the access layer 60 through Internet Protocol to retrieve information wherein such modules are incorporated to a virtual presence server for remote network management ref. by col. 36 lines 49-57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the apparatus for remote management of network resources of Wanderer to the system of providing a multitasking virtual office of Staples and Beaton for the purpose of providing a consistent approach for managing the network hardware resources as suggested by Wanderer (Abstract lines 1-5).

Claim 17, arguments analogous to those stated in the rejection of claim 8 are applicable.

Claim 24, Staples teaches the step of accepting an incoming communication.

Staples and Beaton do not teach accepting an incoming communication over the Internet.

Wanderer teaches accepting the incoming communication over the Internet (FIG. 2, FIG. 4, the poll module 52 using the access layer 60 through Internet Protocol to retrieve information wherein such modules are incorporated to a virtual presence server for remote network management ref. by col. 36 lines 49-57) referenced by the poll

Art Unit: 2616

module 52 using the access layer 60 through Internet Protocol to retrieve information wherein such modules are incorporated to a virtual presence server for remote network management.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the apparatus for remote management of network resources of Wanderer to the system of providing a multitasking virtual office of Staples and Beaton for the purpose of providing a consistent approach for managing the network hardware resources as suggested by Wanderer (Abstract lines 1-5).

Claim 26, Staples teaches a first electronic data network.

Staples does not teach a first electronic data network is the Internet.

Wanderer teaches accepting incoming communication from a user device over an Internet network (FIG. 2, FIG. 4, the poll module 52 using the access layer 60 through Internet Protocol to retrieve information wherein such modules are incorporated to a virtual presence server for remote network management ref. by col. 36 lines 49-57).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the apparatus for remote management of network resources of Wanderer to the system of providing a virtual office of Staples for the purpose of providing a consistent approach for managing the network hardware resources as suggested by Wanderer (Abstract lines 1-5).

Response to Arguments

On review of the proposed amendments, the amendment into claim 1 with the limitation from "access" to "control operation of" has been fully considered. The examiner respectfully maintains the rejection. The prior art of Staples teaches the amended limitation. The remote user laptop of Fig. 1 controls the Office through access of the Virtual Presence Server 106. In this method there is no difference between the access and the control of devices. This is consistent with the instant application's invention wherein the remote PC 10 of Fig. 2A access or controls the Remote Access Controller 225 of Fig. 2B.

Independent claims 6, 9, 15, 18, 20 and 25 are rejected for analogous reasons.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.


Art Unit: 2616

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John L. Shew whose telephone number is 571-272-3137. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema Rao can be reached on 571-272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


js


SEEMA S. RAO 9/19/06
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600